## **HPV Vaccine Recommendations Shift from Three Shots to Two**

Cancer centers hope less shots lead to more vaccinations, prevent cancer

The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center / /James Cancer Hospital & Solove Research Institute

## **EXPERT BITES**

Paskett says the vaccine prevents cancer before it starts:

"We mostly hear about cancer treatments and people dying from cancer. The HPV vaccine is a chance to prevent a cancer before it even starts." :10

Paskett states the change in the CDC recommendation:

"In the United States, it is approved for children under age 15 to receive two shots rather than three shots of the 9-valent HPV vaccine." :10

Paskett says the outreach is about cancer prevention:

"We don't want those patients to become our patients in cancer centers. And this is the way to do it, prevent cancer through vaccination." :09

CG: Electra Paskett, PhD
The Ohio State University Comprehensive
Cancer Center

Paskett explains how the new recommendation will increase compliance:

"Getting children and parents to comply with two doses is a lot easier than three doses. So it will make it a lot easier for us to get more children fully vaccinated with the two doses versus the three doses." :14

Paskett explains that the vaccine works better before exposure to HPV:

"I think there's a misunderstanding of the purpose of prevention and the purpose of the vaccines, and we give the vaccines before you're exposed because once you're exposed, they're not as good." :12

Paskett says the vaccine is about cancer prevention, not sex:

"People have erroneously equated this as permission to engage in sexual promiscuity, and the HPV vaccine has nothing to do with sex. It's all about preventing cancer." :14

Paskett says the HPV vaccine is safe:

"This vaccine has been tested on millions of people and the side effects are no greater and no more severe than any of the other childhood immunizations." :10

Paskett explains what HPV is and how common it is:

"HPV stands for human papillomavirus. There are over 200 of these viruses, and many of us adults will have been infected with an HPV sometime in our lifetime." :16

Paskett explains what HPV does that leads to cancer:

"What these viruses is they entangle themselves in cellular DNA, and instead of the cells producing correctly, the right cells, they'll start to produce weird cells, which then become cancer cells." :16

CG: Electra Paskett, PhD
The Ohio State University Comprehensive
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